THE ORDER AND vſage of keeping of the Parlements

in England,

COLLECTED BY

Iohn Vowel alias

Hooker gentleman,

Dan. c. 209

TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE HIS very good Lord, Sir VVilliam fitz vvilliams, Knight, L. deputye of Ireland, Iohn Vovvel alias Hooker, vvith all humblenes and due reuerẽce, vviſſheth a happy ſucceſſe and a proſperous gouernmẽt to th'encraſe of Gods honor in true Religion, the Queenes maieſties ſeruice in due obedience, and the adminiſtration of the publique vvelth in Iuſtice, Equitie and Iudgement.

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BEEING (RIGHT honorable) at the Parlement holden at Weſtmĩſter in the yeer of our Lord 1571. and the xiij yeer of our moſt ſouerain Lady & maiſtres Queene Elizabeth, whoſe life and long reign the Lord God proſper and continue, and then and there one of the burgeſſes of that honorable aſſembly, for the City of Exceſter, in which I was borne and am reſiant: I called to remembraunce certain queſtions and doutes mooued in the Parlement holden at Dublin, before the right honorable Sir Henry Sidney, Knight of the honorable order, and Lord deputye of this Realme in the xi. yeere of the reign of the Queens Maieſtie. In which aſſembly I

(though vnworthy) was then and there a burgesse. Which douts concerning the orders, vsages, rites and directions of a Parlament (none then presēt hauing the certain knowledge therof) were left in suspence and not resolued. Wherupon I made promise at my returne into England: to procure a perfect instruction of thorders of the Parlements there vsed, and to send them hether to remain for a perpetuall direction of such Parlemēts as henceforth ar to be vsed in this lād.

And beeing thus placed in that honorable assembly: I thought it then a moste fit time for the acquittall of my said promise, wherfore diligently I did obserue, consider and mark all maner of orders, vsages, rites, ceremonies and all other circumstāces, which either I sawe with eye, or found regestred among the records of that assembly. And hauing written the same: I did then confer with the exemplars and presidents of tholde and auncient Parlemēts vsed in tymes past, within the said Realme of England, wherof I found two, the one was that, which king Edgar

Edgar (or as some say, king Edward the cõfessor) vsed, thother, which was in vre in the time of kĩg Edward the first. The forme aswel for antiquities sake, as also for a presidẽt to the good gouernmẽt in tholde yeers: I haue annexed to these presents, thother in sõe things agreeable, & in many things dissagreeable, bothe frõ the first and the last: I haue omitted. This which now is in vre being it which is onely to be followed and vsed.

And surely when I doo consider the great benefits which doo growe to all common welths, when the Prince by thaduise of the graue, auncient, wise & prudent elders, dooth direct his gouernment, as the same is moste ioyfully to be liked and imbraced: so certainly that state which disorderedly is gouerned, is to be lamẽted and pittied, for the one brĩgeth with it self, a prosperous state, a happy life and a perpetuall sosietie: the other the vtter subuercion of the publike weale and confusion of mannes sosietie, wherof who so lusteth to see into the estates and tymes of thages past: shall finde ma-

finit and innumerable examples, which with out great greef and sorow a man cannot consider, but of no nation more: then of the Realmes of England and Ireland, eche of them hauing tasted the benefits of the one, and felt the smarts of thother, for in times past, the one before the cõquest of the Normands, and thother before the conquest of King Henry fitz empriſe: their states were very incertain, perilouse and dangerouse, becauſe for the moſt parte they were directed and gouerned by the proude, ambitious, contentious, bloody and euil diſposed men, by menes wherof, the lands sõetime were rent and deuided with inteſtin rebelliõs and ciuil ſediciõs & many tĩes deuoured & ſpoiled with opẽ & cruel warres. Of thone ſprong the decay of mutuall concord and ciuil ſocietie, without which no eſtate can endure. For as Patricius in his firſt Booke De Iuſtitutione Reip, ſaith, Sine concordia nec firma nec ſtabilis omnino ciuilis ſocietas eſſe cernitur. Nullæ enim vires ſatis eſſe poſſint, Nullũ preſidium, Nullæ opes, Nulla rectigalia illi Reip: que inteſtino bello laborat. Of thother came the confuſion and vtter

deſtruction

destruction of publike state. For as Erasmus saieth in his book De institucione principis Christiani. Ex bello omnium bonarum rerum naufragiū simul oritur, omniumque malorum rerum pelagus exundat. *And by these meanes beeing the preyes of the deuourer, and the enheritaunce of the spoiler, were embrewed and bewrapped in such extreme miseries: that none was left, who in the course of sundry yeares, either would or durst to go before the people to defend them from the enimie or to deliuer them from the Tirant. But suche as remained and escaped the dent of swoord, beeing as Sheep without a pastor, left to the deuocion of the Woulfe, and as the sily cony without a warrener, left to the curtesie of the vermin: endured vnder cruel tirants and bloody inuasors, such plagues and miseries as in suche distresses are laid vpon all estates and common weales.*

Then the good Kings and Princes of these Realmes, hauing an erneste zele and an inward care how to deliuer the same rom these extreme plagues and miseries

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and how to recouer them to thier former estate and suretie, did emong many deuices finde no way so ready, no menes so good nor remedie so present: as to treade the steps of other wise Princes and folow the course of other wel gouerned common weales. Nam vt gratum viatoribus esse solet, eorum vestigia terere qui recte Ambularunt et optimi Gubernatoris est ea arte cursum dirigere, qua facile plurimi in portum dilati sint: sic princeps qui reip. sua bene velit consultum, maiorum exemplis. Ac optimarum rerump. institutis eam excolere debet. Wherfore as Moises had his elders, Licurgus his Ephoros, the Athenienſis the Councels, the Romains their Senates, by whose wisdomes & policies those cõmon welths were directed: so did these assemble all the wise, graue, expert & prudent men frõ out of all partes of their Realmes, and of them made a Senate or Parlemẽt, and by their aduise, such good lawes were made, such wholsome orders deuised, and such worthy gouernmẽt established: as that within a short time the common welths were deliuered from the briers,

ers, weedes and thornes of miserie and oppression, and therwith also they grew and increaced to good estates. And truely a more perfet or better way of gouernment neither hath been: or can be. For albeit the King or Prince him self be neuer so valeant, wise, prudent or learned, yet he cannot be perfet and absolute in all things. Vnus enim princeps qui omnes virtutes complectatur vel nuncquam est inuentus: Nam licet quecunque velit circumspiciat, Non tamen potest omnia concilio et ratione metire. For Moyses who spake face to face with God. Dauid whom God chose according to his owne hart. Salomõ who excelled all the men that euer were or shalbe in wisdome, yea and S. Paule who was rapted vp into the third Heauen, had euery of them their imperfections. Saint Barnard whome the Deuines with great veneracion did esteme for his godlines of life, soundnes of doctrin and profoundnes in Iudgement, yet finding in him many imperfeccions: haue it in a common prouerb. Bernardus non videt omnia. But many wise, learned, graue, and ex-

pert men assembled to gither (out of all places of the Realme) they become as it were one man hauing many wits, many eies, many hands and many feet. Qui omnia cernunt, omniaque prouident, Nihil eis obscurum, Nihil inopinatum, Nihil nouum, Nihil inauditum, Nihil que magnum videri potest: and thus by the gouernment of wise Princes and by thaduise of wise men: these Realmes were deliuered from thrall-dome, restored to libertie, and recouered to a perfet & sure gouernment, which for the course of these sūdry hūdreths of yeers haue cōtinued and perseuered, to the great ioy & cōfort both of the kings & people, how beit the Realme of Ireland though it haue been vnder the happy gouernmēt of the kings of England and in like manner ordred and directed, yet it hath not had the like good successe and happines, for aswel through ignorāce in thordrīg of the senats or parlemēts, as also of the good and wholsōe lawes which though with great wisdome and for the preseruation of the comon welth were deuised: yet beeing laid vp in a secret and priuat

place

place, and nother published nor put in exeeu tion: great disorders and continual rebelli. ons haue growen dayly therby, which great euils and inormities growing by thone, the Queenes maiestie of her goodnes and by the aduise of her prudent gouernors in this land hath for redresse caused, commaunded and willed all tholde wholsome and good lawes, and Statutes of this land to be imprinted, & to be dispersed throughout all the whole land, that ignoraunce by knowledge, and disobedience by loyaltie, being banished and chased out of this land: each man dutifully doth yeeld him self loially to her highnes and obedient to her lawes, these being the onely meanes and remedies to make a prosperous gouernment and a happy common welth.

Optime enim leges sub optimo principe Beatum Reddunt Regnum cuius eum felissimus est status cum vtrisque ab omnibus exequo paretur. Thother all beit it may seem to tuch but a perticuler e. state, yet moste necessary to be also knowen, for if a Parlement which directeth orders to others be disordered it self, how great is

that disorder? if the light which should giue light to thothers become darknes: Qante sunt tenebere? if the spring or fountain it self be invenomed: what wholsõnes or sweetnes can be deriued into the streames therof? Wherfore aswel for the good zeale I bere to the common welth of this realme of Ireland and for the acquitall of my promise made in this behalf: I haue collected as perfet an order as I could of the orders of the Parlements of England, which I thought it my bounden dutie to offer and present vnto your good Lordship, now inprint for the further comfort of all others. I knowe and doo confesse the thing it self beeing but of a small a vaile not sufficient or meet so boldely to be offred to one of your honors estate, and calling, neuertheless the same touchīg some parte of gouernment, and procedīg also from him who in good wil and sincere affection yeeldeth him self your Lordships moste assured: I hope you wil not mislike with me heerin, and that not weying the slendernes of the thing offred: wil consider

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of the good wil of the offerer.

For if Xerxes the noble King of the Persiãs beeing presented but with a dish of water of one of his Soldiers, and Lodowick the French king the eleuenth of that name, beeing offred a Radish root of a poor mã, did (in respect of the good wil of the offerer) thãkfully accept the same, yea if Christ himself affirmeth that the poor Widow casting but a mite into the Gaziophilacium the same beeing by her doon of an inward good wil, was asmuch allowed as they who had cast in moste money and greateſt treasures: this then putteth me in that comfort that my boldens beeing pardoned, and my simple offer beeing allowed: I shall finde your Lordship so wel bent towards me as to accept the same in good parte.

The Lord God blesse and prosper you and increase his good gifts in you, that vnder your gouernment, God in true Religion be honored, the Queenes highnes in due obedience serued: and the common welth and

publike state of this Realme in Iustice and iudgement duely administred and directed.

And that your Lordship at the length for your so wel doings may receiue with the encreace of honor, thanks of her highnes, good reporte with immortall fame of the common welth, and in thend euerlasting blessing of the euerliuīg God, which he of his goodnes and mercy graunt vnto you.

The thirde of October. 1572.

Your honorable Lordships moste assured to commaund. Iohn Vowel alias Hooker.

The olde and auncient order of keeping of the Parlement in England, vsed in the time of King Edward the Confessor,

FIrst the monicion or summons of the Parlement ought to be made or done: forty dayes before the beginning of the Parlement.

The summons of the Spiritualtie.

ALl Bishops, Abbots, Priors and all other great Clarks that holde by Countie or Baronye, by reason of their holding, ought to be monished, and also to come to the Parlement, & none other inferiors of the Clergie, vnlesse their presence were profitable and necessary for the Parlement, and to those: the King is bound to giue their costs cõming and abiding at the Parlement. And such inferior Clarks not to be monished to come to the Parlement, but the King was accustomed to send his writtes vnto such discrete men, desiring them to come and be at the Parlement. Also the King was accustomed to send his monitions or summons to the Archbishops, Bishops and other exempt persõs, that is to say, Abbots, Priors, Deanes and other ecclesiasticall persõs ỹ haue iurisdictiõ by such exemption and distinct priuiledges, that they for euery Deanry & Archdeaconry through England should elect and chose or cause to be elected and chosen two discrete & wise Proctors of their owne Archdeaconry which should come and be at the Parlemẽt, there to sustain and allow, & to do that thing that euery man of their Deanry or Archdeaconry might do if they were there in proper persons. And these proctors so sent for the Clergie: should bring with them their double Proxies sealed with double Seales of their Superiors. The one of the Proxies to remaine with the Clarks of the Parlement: and the other to remaine with the said Proctors, and vnder this manner the Clergye

ought to be called to the Parlement.

The ſummons of the Temporaltie.

ALſo all and euery Earle, Baron, and their Pæres, that is to ſay, that haue Lands and rents to the value of an Earledõe or of a whole Barony. That is to ſay, twenty Knights fées, euery fée containing xx. pound land, whiche amounth to iiy. C. pound in the whole, or to the value of an whole Barony, that is to ſay xiy. fées, and the third parte of a Knights fée: euery fée accounted at xx. pound, whiche amounteth in the whole to iiy. C. marks. And no inferior perſons of the Temporaltie ſhall come to the Parlement by reaſon of his holde, vnleſſe his preſence be neceſſary and profitable, and they tobe ordred for their charges at the Kings coſts, as is ſpoken before of the inferior Clarks.

The ſummons of the Barons of the fiue Portes.

ALſo the king ought to ſend his writs to the Warden of the fiue Ports that he ſhould cauſe to be elected or choſen for euery of the ſaid Ports: two diſcrete and wiſe Barons that ſhould come and be preſent at the Parlement, there to anſwere, ſuſtain, alledge, & do all things concerning the ſaid Parlement, as wel as if all and euery of the Barons were their perſonally.

And theſe Barons ſo elect and choſen ſhall bring with them their double Writes, double ſealed with the common Seale of the Porte. The one therof to be deliuered to the Clarks of the Parlement: and th'other to remain with the ſaid Barons ſo choſen and elected. And when it ſhall chaunce the ſaid Barons (licence obtained) to departe: they were accuſtomed to haue a writ ſealed with the great Seale to the Warden of the fiue Portes for their reaſonable expences doon from the firſt of their

comming

comming home, to be leuyed of the Communaltie of euery partye, hauing expresse mention made in the writ from the said first day of their comming: vntil the time of their licence obtayned, and it was accustomed that mention should be made in the said writ what euery Baron should take of the Commons for a day, that is to say some more, some lesse, a consideration and respect had to the honestest for their tarying, labours and expences, and it was not accustomed that any certain summe was limitted by the said Court.

Of the Knights of the Parlement.

ALso the King was accustomed to send his writs to all the Shiriffes within the Realme that they should cause to be chosen two honest, wise and discrete Knights for euery Shéer, to come to the Parlement with such Priories as is before spoken of the Barons of the fiue Portes.

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But for the expences of the said two Knights, for euery shéer was not accustomed to be graunted aboue. xiij. shillings and iiij. pence for a day.

Of the Citizins of the Parlement.

IN the like manner the Mayor of London and the Shiriffes. The Mayor and Bayliffes or the Mayor and Citizins of York, and all other Cittyes were wont to be warned that they for the Communaltie of their Cittyes should elect and chose two discrete, honest and wise Citizins to come and be at the Parlement, vnder the forme as is spoken of before of the Barons, and of the Knights of the Shéere.

And the said Citizins were accustomed to be like and equall in their expences for comming, abiding and returning to

and from the Parlement as are the Knights.

Of the Burgeſſes of the Parlement.

IN like maner the Baylifs and wiſe men of the Boroughs were accuſtomed, and ought to bee warned that they ſhould chooſe two diſcrete, honeſt and wiſe Burgeſſes of them ſelues and by them to come and be at the Parlement in like maner as is ſpoken of the Citizins.

But it was not accuſtomed that two Burgeſſes ſhould haue for their charges aboue x. ſhillings, and ſomtime not aboue vj. ſhillings and viij. pence, and that ſhould be tared by the Court after the habilitie of the Borough, and the honeſtie of the Burgeſſes.

Of the two principall Clarks of the Parlement.

ALſo two principall Clarks of the Parlement ſhall ſit in ỹ midſt of the Juſtices, which ſhal inrolle all plaintz and matters of the Parlement. And it is to be knowen that theſe two Clarks be not ſubiect to any of the Juſtices of England, nor that any Juſtice hath any authoritie in the Parlement, vnleſſe he be aſſigned to any thing by the King and Peares of the Parlement.

And when they be aſſigned with other Sutors of the Parlement to hear and determin diuers pleaes and petitions to bee finiſhed by Parlement. Yet the two Clarks to be immediat ſubiects to the King and Parlement in common, vnleſſe one of the Iudges or two be aſſigned to examin and amẽd their inrolling. And if the peares of the Parlement be aſſigned to hear and examin any ſpetiall petitions, after they haue broken their

matter

matter: they shall giue their sentence and iudgement in the full Parlement, and the two Clarks inrolle the same, and all other plaints and Iudgements of the Parlement in the principall of the Parlement, and there to deliuer those rolles to the Treasurer before the Parlement be finished.

Prouided that the said Clarks shall haue a Transumpt or Copy of it if they list. And these two Clarks shall haue for their expences xiij. shillings and iiij. pence, vnlesse they haue any fée or Office of the King and be dayly wayters hauing meat and drink of the Kings cost, and then they to haue vj. shillings and viij. pence euery day during the Parlement.

Of the fiue Clarks.

ALso the King shall assigne fiue Clarks wise and approbate, of whome the first shall attend the Bishops. The second: the Proctors of the Clergie. The third: the Earles and Barons. The fourth: the Knights of Shæres, and the fifth: the Citizins and Burgesses.

And euery of them shall haue v. shillings a day, vnlesse they be the Kings seruants and haue sufficiēt liuing of the King, and then they to haue but xij. d. the day, which Clarks shall write al douts betwéen the King and the Parlement, and they to be at their councels whersoeuer they be commaunded. And in case they shalbe vacant: they shall help the two principall Clarks to inrolle their busines.

Of the causes and douts of the Parlement.

WHen any breach, difficultie of dout or diffuse cause of warre or peace doth appear within the Realme or without: that cace ought to be declared in writing in the full Parlement, there to be treated and disputed among the péeres of the Parlement, and if it be necessary: the King shall commaund or

in the kings name it shalbe cõmaunded that euery degrée and the persons of euery degrée of the Parlement shalbe present in the Parlement, and to the Clark of euery degrée in the Parlement, the cause, breach and dout shalbe deliuered, and by him at a certain place to be to them deliuered and declared. And therupon they to study, imagin and consider how this dout or brech may be prouided for, as they in time comming shall make aunswere for the preseruation of the king, themselues, and the Commons, whose persons they do represent.

And so in this behalf they shall make their answere or councel to be written, so that euery degrees answere and aduisement heard: the whole Parlement to admit and allow the best and wisest councel, and therafter to do, and wheras been diuers oppinions: then to incline to the more parte of the Parlement.

And in case there be any discorde betweén the king and any of the estates, or betweén estates, wherby the peace of the Realme or the people of the Cuntrey might be disturbed, in this cace if the king think it expedient: it ought to be communed of, and reformed by the aduice of all the Pœres of the Realme, or in cace the king and the Realme been troubled with warres, or a doutful cace be depending before the Chaunceller of England, or a diffuse Judgement be depending before the Justices.

And if in these the Pœres of the degrées of the Parlement cannot agrée: then the Eearle Steward the Earle Constable, and the Earle Marshall, or two of them shall elect xxb. persons of all degrées of the Pœres of the Realme, that is to say: two Bishops, thrée Proctors for the Clergie, two Earles, thrée Barons, fiue knights of the Shéres, fiue Citizins and fiue Burgesses.

And these xxb. may condiscend into xij. of them selues, and these twelue into six of them selues, and these six may condiscend into thrée, but these thrée cannot condiscend into a lesse number without the kings concent: and then these thrée may condiscend into two, and the two into one, and after his oppinion and determination the matter shalbe ordered vnlesse the king wil discent as he may, and then may he and his Councell

examen

examen and amend the ordination, so it be vnwritten and don out of the Parlement house, without their consents.

Of matters of the Parlement.

THe Matters wherof the Parlement is holden or kept: ought to be deliuered into the Parlement and to be called vpon in maner of a Kalender according to euery mannes petition, and no respect to be had to any mannes person, but that he who layeth first his Bil in: shall be first heard

In the Kalender of the Parlement euery matter ought to be had in in memory vnder this maner and forme.

First: of warres if there be any, of matters concerning the King and Quéenes person and of their Children.

Secondly: of matters concerning the common weale, and to ordain new Lawes, debarring the olde Lawes made in times past whose execution haue bén preiuditiall.

Thirdly: the matters concerning the priuate weale. And these to be examined according to the file and Kalender as is before written.

The dayes and houres of the Parlement.

THe Parlement shalbe holden euery day, Sunday, Alhallon day, Alsoules day, and the Natiuitie of Saint John the Baptist excepted. And euery feriall day it should begin at mid Prime time, and that houre the King is bound to be in the Parlement and all the Péeres of the Realme. On the holy dayes the Parlement shall beginne at the Prime, because the deuine Seruice should be first heard.

The

The order of the Parlement.

The degrees of the Parlement.

THe King is hed and chéef at the beginning and at the end of the Parlement and to him no comparison is to be made, and so the King is one degrée by him self.

The second is: of Archbishops, Abbots, and Priors holding by Baronyes.

The third is: of the Proctors of the Clergie. The fourth: of Earles, Barons and other estates and Gentles holding to the value of an Earledome or Barony as is before written.

The fifth: of Knights of the Shéeres. The sixth: of Citizins and Burgesses, and so the Parlement is of six degrées.

And it is to be noted that if any of the said degrées be absent after their first monition or summons: the Parlement is not of sufficient effect.

The forme of the Parlement.

SIth it is shewed vnder what forme euery man ought to be monished, and how long time the monitions should be, and what they be that ought to be monished to come to the Parlement by reason of their offices. And also it is to be noted that the two principall Clarks of the Parlement for the King and his Councel, and other secondary Clarks, of whome and of whose Office mention shalbe héeraf-ter made.

The chéef Cryer of England with his deputyes, and the chéef Porter of England, how beit these two Offices were accustomed to be occupyed by one person. These ought to bée there the first day of ỳ Parlemẽt, the Lord Chaunceller of England, the Treasurer, the Chãberlain, ỳ Barons of the Eschequer, the Justices, all the Kings Clarks and Knights wỏ Sergeants at the

Law

Law of the kings retinew or fee: ought to be there the second day, vnlesse they haue a resonable impediment or let.

Of the beginning of the Parlement.

THe King ought to be in the Parlement the first day & should sit in the midst of ỹ high bench. The sirt day: the Chaūceller, the Treasurer, ỹ Barons of the Eschequer and the Justices were accustomed to recorde the defaults don in the Parlement in forme folowing, The first day they must call all the Citizins and Burgesses of all England, and for lack of their apparance: a Citty shalbe amerced in a C.ℓ, and a Borough a C.marks.

The second day: they shall call Knights of Shéres, & in default of their apparance: the shér shalbe amerced a C.pound.

The third day: the Barons of the fiue ports, & after them th'other Barons, and then the Earles, and for lack of apparance of euery Baron: they shalbe amerced a C.marks, and of an Earle: a C.poūd, the like shalbe don to thē that be Earles and Barons Péres, that is to say, as haue Lands and rents to ỹ yérly value of an Earledōe or of a barony as is before expressed. The fourth day: the Proctors of ỹ Clergie shalbe called and for lack of their apparāce: their Bishops shalbe amerced a C.marks for euery Archdeaconry that maketh default.

The fifth day: Deanes, Priors, Abbots, Bishops & Archbishops, and for lack of apparance of an Archbishop: he shalbe amerced a C.pound, a Bishop, an Abbot and a Prior, whiche holde an whole Barony: a C.marks.

Of the Proclamations.

THe first day of the Parlement: proclamation shalbe made first in ỹ Hall or in the Monastery or some other open place where the Parlemēt shalbe holden or kept, and after in the Citty or town opēly that euery man hauing Bil or petition tobe examined or determined in ỹ Parlemēt that it should be laid in within fiue dayes of the beginning of

the Parlement.

Of the preaching of the Parlement.

AN Archbishop or some famose discrete and eloquent Clark tobe assigned by the Archbishop in whose prouince the Parlement shalbe kept and holden, shall preach on the first of the fiue dayes in the ful Parlement and in the Kings presẽce and he shall begin when all the Parlement or the mosse parte shalbe there assembled, and in his orison or prayer he shall require all the whole Parlement that they humbly beseech almightie God for the peace and tranquilitie of the King and Realme.

Of the Speaker of the Parlement.

AFter the Sermon doon: the L. Chaunceller of England or the cheef Justice elect, shall stand declaring in the parlement house, first generally & then specially the causes of ỳ Parlement, and wherfore the same is holden. And it is tobe noted that euery man (the King excepted) shal stand while the said Speaker doth declare his matter, to th'entent that euery man may hear him, & in case he doo speak obscurely or darkly or so lowe that he cannot be heard: he must begin again, or els an other speak in his place.

What the King shall say after the Speaker hath doon.

THe King (after the Speker hath declared the causes of the Parlement) shall desire the Spiritualtie and the Temporaltie naming euery degrée, that is to say, Archbishops, Bishops, Abbots, Priors, Archdeacons, proctors and others of the Clergie, Earles, Barons, Knights, Citizens and Burgesses, and others of the Temporaltie, that they doo diligently, studiously and louingly indeuer them selues to examin, pertract and handle the causes

of

of the Parlement, to the honor of God principall: secondarely to the Kings honor, and lastly to the welth of the Realme.

Of the Kings absence.

THe King ought dayly to be present in the Parlement, vnlesse he be sick or diseased, and then he may kéep his Chamber, so that he lodge not out of the manor or town where the Parlement is holden, and then he ought to send for iij. persons of the great estates that be monished or summoned to the Parlement, wherof, two to be Bishops, two Earles, two Barons, two Knights, two Citizins and two Burgesses, to sée his person & to certifie of his estate, & in their presence he ought to commit power to the Archbishop of the prouince, to the Lord Steward and to the chéef Justices, that they ioyntly and seuerally shall begin and continew the Parlement in the Kings name, making expresse mention in his commission of his disease to th'other estates, and that the persons abowe named can expresse the same, for it is a perilous cace and dangerous for the Communaltie and Realme that the King should be absent from the Parlement: but onely for bodely sicknes.

Of places and seats in the Parlement.

FIrst as it is before said, the King shall sit in the midst of the bench, vpon the right hand: the Archbishop of Canterbury, at his left hand the Archbishop of Yorke, and then Bishops, Abbots and Priors in order, and then euery man in his degrée, and amongst his péeres, and that this order be kept: the Lord Steward of England is bound to lok vnto, vnlesse the King assigne some other.

At the Kings right foot, the Chaunceller of England, the chéef Justice of England with his felowes, and their Clarks, that be of the Parlemēt. And at his left foot shall sit the Treasurer, the Chamberlain, the Barons of the Eschequer, the Judge of the

common place with their Clarks that bēn of the Parlement.

Of the porters of the Parlement.

The chēf Porter of the Parlement shall stand within the great gate of the Monastery, Hal or place where the Parlement is holden and shall attend that no man enter into the Parlement except he be called for matters that he sheweth in the Parlement. And it is expedient that the said Porter haue knoweledge of euery mannes name that shall enter into the Parlement, and if nēd require to haue many Porters vnder him.

Of Cryers of the Parlement.

The Cryer shall stand wihtout the Parlement dor, and the Porter shall shew him when and what he shal call. The king was accustomed to appoit his Sergeāts at armes to kēp the Parlemēt dor, that no thrust, preace or noise, were made there, by meanes wherof the Parlement might be letted, and that such thrust, preace or noyse might be auoyded, and proclamation should be made that no person enterprise such things there, vnder pain of imprisonment, for by Law: the Parlement dor should not be shut, but be kept by the Porter or Sergeant at Armes.

Of the help for the King.

The king was not accustomed to demaund help of his Realme but onely for war that was instant, or for the creation of his Sonnes to bē made Knights: or his Daughter to be maryed, and these helps ought to be demaunded in the ful Parlement, and in writing to be deliuered vnto euery degrē, and they in writing to make answrer. And

if

if this help ought to be graunted: then euery degrée of the Parlement ſhould concent therto. And it is to be knowen, that two Knights or two Citizens, or two Burgeſſes which come to the Parlement, in graunting or denying any thing demaunded in the Parlement: haue more authoritie then the greateſt Earle in England. And in like caſe, two Proctors for the Clergie in one Dioceſſe: haue more auctoritie then their Biſhops in things to be graunted or denyed in the Parlement, and the reaſon is this. The King may holde his Parlement for the communaltie of his Realme, without Biſhops, Earles or Barons, ſo that they haue lawful ſummons and come not, for ſome time there was no Biſhop, Earle nor Baron, and yet the King did kéep his Parlement. But of the contrary, if the communaltie of the Cergie and of the Temporaltie be moniſhed to the Parlement as they ought to be by the Law, & for certain cauſes they do not or wil not come, as if they pretend that the King hath not ruled or gouerned them accordingly, and do therin erpreſſe wherin he hath not ruled them accordingly: in this caſe the Parlement which the King holdeth with the Biſhops, Earles and Barons is of no effect. And therfore in all things that are to be graunted, ordayned, eſtabliſhed or broken by Parlement: the communaltie of ỹ Parlement of neceſſitie muſt concent therunto. For in the cõmunaltie are contained iiij. degrées of Parlement, that is to ſay, Proctors of the Clergie, Knights of Shéres, Citizins of Cittyes and Burgeſſes of townes, & theſe perſons do repreſent the whole cõmunaltie of England wheras the other eſtates do repreſent but their owne perſons.

For billes and petitions of the Parlement.

THe Parlement ought not to be ended whiles any petition dependeth vndiſcuſſed or at leaſt to whome a determinate anſwer is not made, & if the King permit the contrary: he is periured, alſo no Péere of the Parlement ſhall departe from the ſame without licence obtained of the King and of his Péeres, which licence is

to be obtained in open Parlement, and to be recorded in rolle of Parlement.

And if it happen any of the Péeres to be sick, during the parlement so that he cannot come to it: then for thrée dayes he shall send his excuse to the Parlement, but if after thrée dayes passed he come not: then two of his Péeres shalbe sent to him to sée his person, and therof to aduertise the Parlement, and if any suspicion be had: these two péeres shalbe sworne to testifie the very trueth, and if it appéer he haue fained him self sick: he then to be amerced as a fault for his not apparance at the beginning of the Parlement, and if he be sick then before: then he shal make a sufficient to appéer in Parlement for him.

No person of the Parlement can be excused hauing his helth and memory.

The ending of the Parlement.

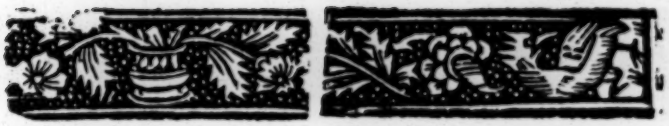
THe finishing of the Parlement must be assigned, appointed and openly proclamed bothe in the Parlement, and within the Palace of the Parlement. And if there be any wil say, that he hath no answere of his bil deliuered into the Parlement: then the Parlement to continue, but if no man so say: it is to be supposed that euery man hath remedye or assigned how to haue remedy by the Lawes. And at the proclamation made, if their be no Billes to be laid in: the King may licence his Parlement.

Of the Copyes of the Records of the Parlement.

THe Clark of the Parlement shall deny to no man the Copy of his processe, but shall deliuer vnto euery man that demaundeth it, taking for euery ten lines a peny. And if the partye be powre and therupon maketh his othe to haue

haue nothing: the rolle of the Parlement ſhalbe tenne inches brode. The Parlement ſhalbe kept wherſoeuer it ſhall pleaſe the King.

THeſe orders in proceſſe of time did ſurceſſe, and were out of all vſe, few or no Parlements being kept, from the time of William the Conqueror, vntil the reign of King Edward the firſt, who by the aduiſe of his wiſe and learned Counſailers preſcribed a forme and order how the Parlement within this Realme ſhould be obſerued and kept, whiche orders alſo in the courſe of certain yéeres grew out of vſe in many points, and the order héer enſuing is that which is in our dayes receiued and vſed.



sage how to keep a Parlement in England in these dayes, colected by I ohn V owel alias Yoker gentleman, one of the Citizens for the Cittie of Exeter at the Parlement holden at VVestminster Anno domine Elizabethæ Reginæ decimo Tertio. 1571.

By whome and for what cause a Parlement ought to be summoned and called.

THe King who is Gods anoynted beeing the hed and cheef of the whole Realme and vpon whome the gouernment and estates therof do wholy and onely depend: hath the power and authoritie to call and assemble his Parlement, and therin to seek & aske the aduise, councel and assistãce of his whole Realme, and without this his authoritie: no parlement can properly be summoned or assembled. And ỹ King hauing this authoritie, ought not to summõ his Parlement: but for weightie & great causes, and in which he of necessitie ought to haue the aduise and counsel of all the estates of his Realme, whiche be these and suche like as foloweth.

First for Religion, for, for asmuche as by the Lawes of God and this Realme, the King next and immediatly vnder God is his deputye and Vicar in Earth, and the cheefest ruler within his Realmes and dominons: his office, function and duty is, aboue all things to seek and see that God be honored in true Religion and Vertue, and that he and his people do bothe in profession and life liue according to the same.

Also that all Idolatries, false Religions, hereties, scismes, errors, superstitions, and what so euer is contrary to true Religion, all disorders and abuses, either among the Clergie or the Laietie, be reformed, ordred and redressed.

Also the assuraunce of the King and Quéenes persons, and of their Children their aduauncement & preferment in mariages, the establishing of succession, the suppression of Traitors, the aduoyding or eschewing of warres, the attempting or moving of warres, the subduing of Rebelles, and pacifying of ciuil warres and commotions, the leuying or hauing any aide or Subsidye for the preseruation of the King and publique estate.

Also the making and establishing of good and wholsome Lawes, or the repealing and debarring of former Lawes, as whose execution may be hurtful or preiudiciall to the estates of the Prince or common welth. For these and such like causes beeing of great weight, charge and importaunce: the King (by ỹ aduise of his councel) may call & summon his high Court of Parlement, and by the authoritie therof establish and order such good Lawes and orders as then shalbe thought moste expedient and necessary.

The order and manner how to summon the Parlement

THe King ought to send out his writs of summons to all the estates of his Realme, at least forty dayes before the beginning of the Parlement. First to all his Lords and Barons, that is to wit, Archbishops, Bishops, Dukes, Marquesses, Earles, Vicountes and Barons, and euery of these muste haue a speciall writ, then to the Clergie, and the writ of their summons must be addressed to euery perticuler Bishop, for the Clergie of his diocesse, & all these writs which are for the Clergie: the King alwaies sendeth to ỹ Archbishops of Canterbury and York, & by them they are sent and dispersed abrode to euery perticuler Bishop wiñ their seuerall prouinces, and so the Bishops giue summons to the Clergie.

Lastly, for the summoning of the Commons: hée sendeth his writ to the Lord warden of the fiue portes, for the election

of

of the Barons therof, and to euery seuerall Shiriffe, for the choice and election of Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses within his countie.

How and what persons ought to be chosen for the Clergie, and of their allowaunces.

THe Bishop ought vpon the receipt of the writ sent vnto him for the sūmoning of his Clergie: forthwith to summō and warne all deanes and Archdeacons within his diocesse to appéer in proper person at the Parlement, vnlesse they haue some sufficient and resonable cause of absence, in whiche cace he may appéer by his Proctor hauing a warrant or prorie for the same.

Then must he also send the like summons to the Deane and Chapter of his Cathedrall Churche, who shall forthwith assemble their Chapter and make choice of some one of them selues to appéer in their behalf, and this man thus chosen: must haue thrir commission or prorie.

He must also send out his summons to euery Archdeaconry and peculier, requiring that the whole Clergie do appéer before him, his Chaūceller or Officer at a certain day, time, and place, who béeing so assembled: shall make choice and election of two men of the said Clergie to appéer for them, and these shall haue their commission or prorie for the same.

These Proctors thus to be chosen ought to be graue, wise, and learned men, béeing professors either of Diuinitie or of the ecclesiasticall Lawes, and that can, wil, and be able to dispute in cause of controuersie, conuincing of heresies, appeasing of Scismes, and deuising of good and godly constitutions concerning true Religion, and orders of the Church.

These Proctors (thus elected) ought to haue resonable allowances for their charges, according to the state, qualitie, or condition of the person, as also a respect had to the time, the proctors of the Dean and Chapter are to be paid out of the Esche-

quer of the Cathedrall Churche. The Proctors of the Clergie are to be paid of the Clergie, among whome a collection is to be leuied for the same, according to an olde order vsed among them.

How and what maner of Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses ought to be chosen, and of their alowances.

THe Sheriffe of euery Countie hauing receiued his writ: ought forthwith to send his precepts & summons to the Maiors, Bayliffes, and hed Officers of euery Citty, Town corporate, Borough, and such places as haue bẽn accustomed to send Burgesses, within his Countie, that they do chose and elect among them selues two Citizẽs for euery Citty, & two Burgesses for euery Borough, according to their olde custome and vsage. And these hed Officers ought then to assemble them selues and the Alder men and commen councel of euery Citty or Town, & to make choice among them selues of two able and sufficient men of euery Citty or Town, to serue for and in the said Parlement.

Likewise at the next Countie day to be holden in the said Countie after the receipt of this writ, the Sheriffe ought openly in the Court of his Sheer or Countie, betweẽ the houres of vij. and. ix. of the fore noon: make Proclamation that euery free holder shall come into the Court, and chose two sufficient men to be Knights for the Parlement, & then he must cause the writ to be openly and distinctly read, wherupon the said free holders then and there present: ought to chose two Knights accordingly, but he him self cannot giue any voice, neither be chosen.

These elections a forsaid so past and don: there ought to be seuerall Indentures made betweẽ the Sheriffe & the free holders of the choise of the knights, and betweẽ the Maior and the hed Officers of euery perticuler Cittie & Town of the choice of their Citizens and Burgesses, and of their names & of their

mainperners

mainperners and Sureties. Of these Indētures, the one parte beeing sealed by the Sheriffe: ought to be returned to the Clark of the Parlement, and th'other parte of the Indentures, sealed by such as made choice of the Knights, and such as made choice of Citizens and Burgesses vnder the seuerall common seales of their Cittics and Townes: ought to remain with the Sheriffe, or rather with the partyes so elected and chosen.

The charges of euery knight and Citizen was wunt to be a like, which was xiy. shillings. iiy. pēce by the day, but now by the Statute it is but viy. shillings, that is, to euery Knight, & euery Citizen iiy. shillings, & to euery Burgesse the olde vsage to haue v. shillings, but now it is but iy. shillings. & iiy. pence limitted by the Statute, which alowaunces is to be giuen from the first day of their iorney towards the Parlement, vntil the last day of their return from thēce. Prouided that euery such person shalbe alowed for so many daies as by iorneying xxvj. miles euery day in the Winter, and xxx. miles in the Summer, hee may come and return to and from the Parlement.

In choice of these Knights, Citizens and Burgesses: good regarde is to be had that the Lawes & customs of the Realme be heerin kept and obserued, for none ought to be chosen: vnlesse he be resiant and dwelling with in the Sheer, Citty or Town, for which he is chosen. And he ought to be a graue, wise, learned, skilful, and of great experience in causes of policies, and of such audacitie as bothe canne and will boldely vtter and speak his minde according to duety, and as occation shall serue, for no man ought to bee silent or dum in that house, but according to his talent hee must and ought to speak in the furtheraunce of the King and common welth.

And the Knights also ought to be skilful in martiall affaires, and therfore the wordes of the writs are that such should be chosen for Knights as be Cincti gladio, not because they shall come into the Parlement house in armoure, or with their Swordes: but because they should be suche as haue good experience, and knowledge in feates of Warre, and of martiall affayres, whereby they may in suche caces giue the

The order of the Parlement.

King and Realme good aduise and councel, likewise they ought to be Lay men and of good fame, honestie, and credit, beeing not vtlawed, excõmunicated, or periured, or otherwise infamose, for such persons: ought not to haue place or to be admitted into the Parlement house.

The degrees of the Parlement.

IN times past there were six degrees or estates of the Parlement, whiche euery of them had their seuerall officers and ministers of attendaunce, but now the same are reduced into foure degrees. The first is the King, who in his personage is a ful and whole degrée of him self, and without whome nothing can be don.

The second degrée is of the Lords of the Clergie and of the Temporaltie, and are all called by the names of Barons.

The third is of knights, Citizens, and Burgesses, and these be called by the names of the communaltie.

The fourth: is of the Clergie which are called by the name of conuocacion, and these persons haue no voice in the Parlement, nether can they do any thing other thẽ to intreat in causes of Religion, which from them is to be commended to other estates.

Of the places and houses of the Parlement.

AS it lyeth in the King to assigne and appoint the time when the Parlement shall begin, so that he giue at the least forty dayes summons: so likewise he may name and appoint the place where it shalbe kept, but whersoeuer it bæ kept, th'olde vsage and maner was that all the whole degrées of the parlement, sat togither in one house, and euery man that had there to speak: did it opẽly before the king and his whole Parlement, but hẽrof did growe many inconueniences

veniences, and therfore to auoid the great confusions which are in such great assemblies: as also to cut of th'occasions of displeasures which eftsones did happen, when a mean man speaking his conscience frely, either could not be heard, or fel into the displeasure of his betters, and for sundrye other great greefs, did deuide this one house into three houses, that is to wit, the higher house, the lower house and the conuocation house.

In the first: sitteth the King, and his Lords spirituall and Temporall called by the name of Barons, and this house is called the higher house.

The second is: where the Knights, Citizens and Burgesses do sit, and they be called by the name of Commons, and this house is called the lower house.

The third is: where the prelats and Proctors of the Clergie sit beeing called by the name of the Clergie, and this house is called the conuocation house, of euery of these houses: their orders and officers, we wil briefly subuect and declare particularly in order as followeth.

Of the higher house.

THe higher house (as is said) is where the King and his Barons do sit in Parlement, where the King sitteth highest, and the Lords and Barons beneath him eche man in his degree, the order is this. The house is much more in length then in breadth, and the higher end therof in the middle is the Kings seat or Throne hanged richly with cloth of estate, and there the king sitteth all waies alone. On his right hād: there is a long bench nert to the wall of the house whiche reacheth not so farre vp as the Kings seat, and vpon this sit the Archbishops and Bishops euery one in his degree. On his left hand: there are two like bēches, vpon the inner: sit the Dukes, Marquesses, Erles and Vicounts. On the other which is the hindermoste nert to the wall: sit all the Barons euery man in his degree. In the middle of the house betweēn the Archbishops seat and the Dukes seat: sitteth the Speaker,

Speaker, who commonly is the Lord Chaunceller, or keeper of the great Seale of England, or the L. cheef Iustice of England as pleaseth the King, who doth appoint him, and he hath before him: his two Clarks sitting at a Table before them vpon which they do write and lay their Bookes. In the middle rowme beneath them: sit the cheef Iustices and Iudges of the Realme, the Barons of ỹ Eschequer, the Queenes Sergeants and all such as be of the Kings learned Councel, either in the common Lawes of the Realme: or of the Ecclesiasticall lawes, and all these sit vpon great Wool sacks, couered with red cloth.

At the lower end of all these seates is a bar or a Rail, betweẽ which and the lower end of the house: is a void rowme seruing for the lower house, and for all Suters, that shall haue cause and occasion to repair to the King or to the Lords. This house as it is distinct from the others: so there bee distinct Officers to the same belonging and appertaining, whiche all be assigned and appointed by the King, and all haue allowances for their charges at the Kings hands, of which Officers what they are, what is euery of their offices, and what allowances they haue: shalbe written in order hereafter.

Of the Officers of the higher house and first of the Speaker, and of his office.

THe cheefest Officer of the higher house: is the Speaker, who is appointed by the King, and commonly he is the Lord Chaunceller or keeper of the great Seale, or Lord cheef Iustice of England, his office consisteth in diuers points.

First: he must on the first day of the Parlement, make his oration in the higher house, before the king, his Lords and commons, & then & there declare the causes why the King hath summoned that parlement, exhorting and aduising euery man to do his office and duty, in such sorte as may be to the glory of God, honor of the King, and benefit of the common welth.

Also he must make one other oration, but in way of answere to the Speakers Oration, when he is presented to the King.

Likewise

Likewise he must make the like, on the last day of the Parlement, and you shall vnderstand that vpon these three dayes: he standeth on the right hand of the King nèer to his seat, at a bar there appointed for him, but at all other times: he sitteth in the middle of the house as is before said.

When he hath ended his oration vpon the first day: he must giue order vnto the lower house in the Kings behalf, willing them to repair vnto their house, and there (according to their ancient order and customes) make choice of their Speaker,

All Billes presẽted vnto the higher house: he must receiue, which he hath forthwith to deliuer to the Clarkes to be safely kept.

All Billes he must cause to be red twise before they be ingroced, and bèeing red three times: he must put the same to question.

If any Bil put to question do passe with their consẽt: then the same must be sent to the lower house, vnlesse it came first from thence, and in that cace: it must be kept vntil the end of the Parlement.

If any Bil be denyed, impugned, and clèere ouerthrowne: the same is no more to be thenceforth receiued.

If any Bil be put to question, and it be doutful whether side is the greater and giueth moste voices: then he must cause the house to be deuided, and then iudge of the Bil according to the greater number.

If any Bill be imperfect or requireth to be amended: hée must chose a certain number of that house, as he shall think good, and to them commit that Bil to be reformed and amended.

If any Bil or message be tobe sent to ỹ lower house: it is his office to make choice of two of the Kings learned councel there bèeing to be the messengers therof.

If any Bil or message be sent from the lower house: hée must come from his place to the bar & there receiue the same, and bèeing returned to his place and euery Straunger or messenger departed: he must disclose the same to the Lords.

Item if any disorder be committed or don in the house by any Lord or other person: he ought with the aduise of the Lords to reforme the same, but if it be emong the Lords, and they will not be reformed: then he must forth with aduertise the King.

Item he ought at the beginning of the Parlement: to call by name all the Lords of the Parlement, and likewise at other times as he seeth occasion, whose defaults ought to be recorded, and they to pay their fines vnlesse they be dispenced with all by speciall licence from the King, or haue some iust and resonable cause of absence.

Item he must see and cause the Clarks to make true entries and true recordes of all things don there, and to see that the Clarks do giue and deliuer the copyes of all such Billes there red to such as demaund for the same.

Item he shall keep the secrets and cause and commaund euery man of eche degree in that house to do the like.

Also he ought not to go any where, but the gentleman Sergeant ought to attend vpon him, going before him with his Mace, vnlesse he be Lord Chaunceller for then he hath a Sergeant of his owne.

His alowance that he hath is at the kings charges.

Also for euery priuate Bil that passeth and is enacted: hee hath x.pound for his parte.

Of the Chaunceller of the higher house.

THe Chaunceller is the principall Clark of the higher house, and his charge is safely to keep the recordes of the Parlement and the Acts whiche be past.

All suche Statutes as be enacted: hee must send to the Kings seuerall Courts of recordes to be enrolled, as namely the Chauncery, the kings Bench, the common place, and the Eschequer.

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All

All ſuche Acts as are to be imp*r*inted: he muſt ſend to the P*r*inter.

All ſuch p*r*iuate Acts as are not imp*r*inted, if any man wil haue the ſame exemplified: he muſt tranſmit the ſame to the Lo*r*d Chaunceller to be ingroſſed and ſealed, and fo*r* the ſame, he to take the fées appointed and accuſtomed.

He hath fo*r* his alowance an o*r*dinary fée fo*r* terme of life of the King.

Of the Clarks of the Parlement.

THere be two Clarks, the one named the Clark of the Parlement: and the other uamed the Clark of the Crown. The Clark of the Parlement his office is to ſit before the Lo*r*d Speaker, and to read ſuch Billes p*r*eſented as hée ſhalbe commaunded.

He muſt kéep true reco*r*ds and true entries of all things there don and to be entred.

If any require a coppy of any bil there: he ought to giue the ſame receiuing the o*r*dinary fées.

If any Bil after his o*r*dinary reading, be to be ingroſſed he muſt do it.

The councel of the houſe he may not diſcloſe.

At the end of the Parlement: he muſt deliuer vp vnto the Chaunceller, all the Acts and reco*r*ds of that houſe, ſauing he may kéep a tranſumpt and a coppy therof to him ſelf.

He hath his alowance of the King.

Alſo fo*r* euery p*r*iuate Bil whiche is enacted: he hath thrée pound.

Alſo fo*r* euery Bil whereof he giueth a coppy: he hath fo*r* euery ten lines a peny accо*r*ding to the cuſtome,

THe Clark of the Crown: his office is to ſupply the place and the rowme of the Clark of the Parlement in his abſence

sence, and hath in all things the like charges and profits, as the Clark ought to haue.

He must giue his attendaunce to the higher house from time to time and do what shalbe inioyned him.

All suche Acts as be not imprinted, if any man wil haue them exemplified vnder the brode Seale: he must exemplifie them, and haue for the same his ordinary fées.

These two Clarks at the end of the Parlement: ought to be present in the house, and within the lower bar at a bord before them, their faces towards the King, and there the one must read the billes which are past bothe houses: and the other must read the concent or disagrement of the King.

Of the Sergeants or porters of the higher house.

There is but one Sergeant whiche hath the charge of kéeping of the dores, for though there be diuers dores: yet the kéepers therof are at his assignement.

He ought to sée the house be cléene and kept swéet.

He ought not to suffer any manner of person to be within the house, so long as the Lords be there sitting, other then such as be of the learned councel, and of that house, and except also such as come in message from the lower house with Billes or otherwise, and except also such as be sent for, and be admitted to haue any thing there to do.

Also he must attend and go alwaies with his Mace before the Speaker, vnlesse he be Lord Chaunceller, or képer of the great Seale, for then he hath a Sergeant of his owne.

He ought to kéep safely such prisoners as be commaunded to his warde, and to fetch or sẽd for such as he shalbe commaunded to fetch.

This Porter or Sergeant hath besides his ordinary fée: a standing allowance for euery day of the Parlement.

Also

Also he hath for euery priuate Bil which is enacted: xl. s.

Also he hath for euery prisoner committed to his warde: a certain alowance for his fees.

Also he hath of euery Baron or Lord of that house, a certain reward.

Of the lower house.

The lower house (as is said) is a place distinct from the others, it is more of length then of breadth, it is made like a Theater, hauing foure rowes of seates one aboue an other rounde about the same. At the higher end in the midle of ỳ lower rowe: is a seat made for ỳ Speaker, in which he alwaies sitteth, before it: is a table bord, at which sitteth the Clark of the house and there vpon layeth his Bokes, and writeth his recordes. Vpon the lower rowe on bothe sides the Speaker: sit such personages as be of the kings priuy councel, or of his chief Officers, but as for any other: none claimeth nor can claime any place, but sitteth as he cõmeth, sauing that on the right hand of the Speaker, nert beneath the said Councelles: the Londoners and the Citizens of Yorke do sit, and so in order should sit all the Citizens accordingly. Without this house: is one other in which the vnder Clarkes do sit, as also such as be Suters and attendãt to that house, and when so euer the house is deuided vpon any Bil: then the rowme is voided, and the one parte of the house commeth down into this to be numbred.

The office of the Speaker of the lower house.

THe chéef or principall Officer of this house: is the Speaker, and is chosen by the whole house or the more parte of them, he himself béeing one of the same number, and a man for grauitie, wisdome, experience, and learning: chosen to supplye that Office during the time of the Parlement, and is to be presented to the King the third day following.

His Office is to direct and guide that house in good order, and to sée the ordinaunces, vsages, and customs of the same to be firmely kept and obserued.

When he is presented vnto the King sitting in his estate royall in the Parlement house, for the purpose: he must then and there make his oration in commendation of the Lawes and of the Parlement, whiche don: then he hath in the name of the house of the commons: to make to the King thrée requests.

First: that it may please his maiestie to graunt that the commons assembled in the Parlement may haue and inioy the ancient priuiledges, customes and liberties as in times past haue appertayned and béen vsed in that house.

Then that euery one of ỳ house may haue libertie of speech, and frely to vtter, speake and declare his minde and oppinion to any Bil or question to be proponed.

Also that euery Knight, Citizen and Burgesse, and their seruants, may haue frée comming and going to and from the said Parlement, as also during the time of Parlement, and that they, nor any of their Seruants nor retinewe: to be arested, molested, sued, imprisoned, or troubled by any person or persons.

And lastly, that if he or any other of that company, béeing sent or come to him of any message, and do mistake him self in doing therof: that his Maiestie wil not take the aduantage therof but gratiously pardon the same.

He must haue good regarde and sée that the Clark do enter and make true records, and safely to kéep the same, and all such Billes as be deliuered into that house.

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He must on the first and third day, and whensoeuer he els wil, call the house by name, and recorde their defaults.

All billes to be brought and to be presented into that house: he must receiue and deliuer to the Clark.

He ought to cause and command the Clark to read the Billes brought in, plainly and sensibly, which doon: he must breefly resite and repete th'effect and meaning therof.

Of the Billes brought in he hath choice, which and when they shalbe red: vnlesse order by the whole house be taken in that behalf.

Euery Bil must haue three readings, and after the second reading: he must cause the Clark to ingrose the same, vnlesse the same be reiected and dashed.

If any Bil or message be sent from the Lords, he ought to cause the messengers to bring the same vnto him, and he to receiue the same openly, and they beeing departed and gone: he ought to disclose and open the same to the house.

If when a Bil is red, diuers do rise at one instant to speak to the same, and it cannot be discerned who rose first: then shall he appoint who shall speak, neuertheless euery one shall haue his course to speak if he list.

If any speak to a Bil and be out of the matter: he shall put him in remembrance and wil him to come to the matter.

If any Bil be red three times, and euery man haue spoken his minde: then shall he aske the house whether the Bil shall passe or not, saying thus, as many as wil haue this Bil passe in maner and forme as hath been red: say yea, then the affirmatiue parte say yea, as many as wil not haue this Bil passe in maner and forme as haue been red: say no. If vpon this question the whole house or the more parte, do affirme and alowe the Bil: then the same is to be sent to the higher house to the Lords. But if the whole house or the more parte do denye the Bil: then the same is dashed out and to be reiected, but if it be doutful vpon giuing of voices, whether side is the greater: thē must a deuision be made of the house, and the affirmatiue parte must arise, & departe into the vtter rowme, which by

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the Sergeant) is voided before hand of all persons that were there, and then the Speaker must assigne two or foure to number them first which sit within, & then the other which be without, as they do come in, one by one, and as vpon the triall the Bil shalbe alowed or disalowed by the greater number: so to be accepted as is before said.

If vpon this triall the number of either side be like: then the Speaker shall giue his voice and that onely in this point, for other wise he hath no voice.

Also if any of the house do misbehaue him self, and breke the order of the house: he hath to reforme, correct, and punish him, but yet with the aduise of the house.

If any forrain person do enter into that house, the assembly therof bæing sitting, or do by arresting any one persō there of, or by any other meanes breke the liberties and priueledges of that house: he ought to sée him to be be punished.

Also during the time of the Parlement: he ought to sequester him self, from dealing or intermedling in any publique or priuate affaires, and dedicate and bēd hum self wholly to serue his office and function.

Also he ought not to resorte to any noble man, counceller or other person to deal in any of the Parlement matters: but must and ought to haue with him a compitent number of some of that house, who may be witnesses of his doings.

Also during the time of Parlement: he ought to haue the Sergeant of Armes with his mace to go before him.

Also he hath the libertie to send any offender, either to Sergeants warde, or to the Tower, or to any other prison at his choice, according to the qualitie and quantitie of the offence.

He hath allowance for his diet, one hundred pounds of the King for euery Sessions of Parlement.

Also he hath for euery priuate Bil passed bothe houses and enacted: fiue pounds.

At th'end, and on the last day of the Parlement: he maketh his oration before the King, in moste humble maner declaring the dutiful seruice, and obedience of the Commons then assembled

bled to his Maiestie: as also moste humblye praying his pardon if any thing haue been don amisse.

Of the Clark of the lower house.

THere is onely one Clark belonging to this house, his office is to sit next before the Speaker, at a Table vpon which he writeth and layeth his boks.

He must make true entrie of the recordes and Billes of the house, as also of all the orders therof.

The Billes appointed vnto him by the Speaker to be red: hee must read openly, plainly and sensibly.

The Billes which are to be ingrossed, he must do it.

If any of the house aske the sight of any Bil there, or of the book of the orders of the house: he hath to deliuer the same vnto him.

If any desire to haue the copy of any Bil: he ought to giue it him, receiuing for his paines after ten lines a peny.

He may not be absent at any time of sitting, without speciall licence.

He ought to haue for euery priuate Bil passed and enacted: forty shillings.

He hath allowed vnto him for his charges (of the King) for euery Sessions: ten pound.

Of the Sergeant or porter of the lower house.

THe Sergeant of this house is commonly one of the Kings Sergeants at Armes, and is appointed to this office by the King. His office is to keep the dores of the house, and for the same: he hath others vnder him, for he him self keepeth the dor of the inner house, wher the commons sit, and seeth the same to be clene.

Also he may not suffer any to enter into this house during the time of the sitting there, vnlesse he be one of the house,

or be sent from the King or the Lords, or otherwise licenced to come in.

If any such person do come: he ought to bring him in, going before him with his Mace vpon his shoulder.

If any be commited to his warde: he ought to take charge of him, and to keep him in safetie vntil he be required for him.

If he be sent for any person or to go in any message: hee must leaue a substitute behinde him, to do his Office in his absence.

He must alwaies attend the Speaker, and go before him, carying his mace vpon his shoulder.

His allowance (during the time of the Parlement) is xij. s. the day of the Kings charges.

Also he hath of euery Knight and Citizen: v. shillings and vj. pence, and of euery Burgesse, v. shillings.

If any be commaunded to his warde: he hath of euery such Prisoner, by the day. vj. shillings and. viij. pence.

If any priuate Bil do passe and be enacted: he hath for euery such Bil, xx. shillings.

Of the Conuocacion house.

THe conuocation house, is the assemblie of the whole Clergie at and in some peculier place apointed for the purpose.

But as the Barons and Lords of the Parlement haue their house seuerall and distinct from the Commons: euen so the Archbishops and Bishops do sequester them selues and haue a house seuerall from the residue of the Clergie. And this their house is called the higher Conuocation house, the other beeing named the lower Conuocation house. Bothe these houses haue their seuerall Officers, orders and vsages, & eche Officer hath his peculier charge and function, as also certain allowances, euen as

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is vsed in the Parlement houses of the Lords and commons.

The Archbishops and Bishops do sit all at a Table and do discourse all such causes and matters as are brought in question before thē, either of their owne motions: or from the higher Court of Parlement, or from the lower house of Conuocation, or from any priuate person. Euery Archbishop and Bishop sitteth and taketh place according to his estate and degrée, which degrées are knowen by such degrées and offices in the Church: as to euery of them is assigned, for one hath the personage of a Prést, an other of a Deacon, this is a Subdeacō, he is a Sexten and so forth, as such officers were wont to be in ỹ Church.

The Bishops do not sit at the fore noon, but onely at the after noon, because they béeing Barons of the higher house of parlement: do resorte and assemble them selues there at the forenoones with the Temporall Lords.

The Conuocacion house of the rest of the Clergie: do obserue in a maner the like orders as the lower house of the commons do vse, for béeing assembled togither on the first day with the Bishops: are by them willed to make choice of a Speaker for them, whome they call the Prolocutor, when they haue chosen him: they do present him vnto the Bishops, and he thus presented: maketh his oration, and doth all things as the Speaker of the lower house for the Commons doth, as wel for the ordering of the Clergie and of the house, for his order in sitting, the order in speaking, the order of recording the things don emong them, and all other such like things.

And this is to be vnderstanded, that the whole Clergie can deale and intreat but onely of matters of Religion, and orders of the Church, whiche their doings & conclusions cannot binde the whole Realme: vnlesse they be confirmed by Act of Parlement, but yet sufficient to binde the whole Clergie to the kéeping therof, so that the King (who is the supreme gouernour of bothe estates) do consent and confirme the same. And forasmuch as by knowing the orders of the Parlement house: you may also knowe the orders of bothe the Conuocation houses, which are like and correspondent to ỹ others. These shal suffise

for this matter.

Of extraordinary persons which ought to be summoned to the Parlement.

BEsides the personages of the former degrées which ought to be summoned to the parlement: the King also must warne and summon all his councellers bothe of th'one Law and of th'other and those haue their places onely in the higher house, namely the two cheef Justices and their associates, of the Kings bench, and the common places, the Barons of the Eschequer, the Sergeants, the Attorney, the Soliciter, the Maister of the Rolles, and his fellowes of the Chauncerye.

The offices of these personages are to giue councel to the King and Parlement in euery doutful cause according to the Lawes.

Also if any Bil be conceiued and made disorderly: they ought to amend and reforme the same, vpon order and commaundemet to them giuen.

Also they must attend to come and go at the commaundement of the King and Parlement.

Also they may not speak nor giue aduise: but when they be asked and put to question.

Also they haue no voice in Parlement: because they are commonly councellers to the same.

They are all retained at the Kings charges.

Likewise all officers of the Parlement are to be summoned, as namely the Chauncellor of the Parlement, the Clarks, the Sergeants, the Porters and such others, who likewise are retained at the Kings costs. Of their offices and charges, it is alredy perticulerly declared.

Of the dayes and houres to sit in Parlement.

All

The order of the Parlement.

ALl dayes of the week are appointed saving and excepted the Sundayes and all principall feastes, as namely the feasts of All hallowen day, Christmas, Easter, Whitsontide, and Saint John ỹ Baptist̃ day, & also such other dayes as the Parlement by consent shall appoynt and assigne.

The beginning is at eight of the clock in the morning, and doth continew vntil. xi. of the clock.

They do not sit at after nones, for those times are reserued for Committies and the Conuocation house.

In the morning: they begin with the Common prayer, and Letanye which are openly red in the house.

Of the King, his office and authoritie.

HAuing declared of all the estates, degrees, and personages of the Parlement: it resteth now to speak also of the King and of his office, who is all in all, the beginning and the ending and vpon whome resteth and dependeth the effect and substaunce of the whole Parlement, for without him and his authoritie: nothing can be don, and with it: all things take effect, neuertheleſſe when he calleth and assembleth his Parlement: there are sundrye orders whiche of him are to be obserued, and which he ought to see to be kept and executed, or els the Parlement surceaseth to be a Parlement and taketh not his effect, of whiche orders: these be the chief which do insue.

First: the King ought to send out his summons to all the estates of his Realme, of a Parlemẽt assigning & appointing the time, day and place.

Also his summons must be at the least forty dyaes before the beginning of his Parlement.

Also he must appoint and prouide all such officers as ought

to attend the Parlement, who must be found at his charges.

Also the King ought not to make any choice, or cause any choice to be made of any Knight, Cittzens, Burgesses, Proctors of the Clergie, Speaker of the common house, or Proloquutor of the Conuocation house: but they must be elected and chosen by the lawes, orders and customs of the Realme, as they were wunt and ought to be, and the Kings good aduise yet not to be contemned.

Also the king ought to graunt, permit, and allow to all and euery of the estates and to euery perticuler man, lawfully elected and come to the Parlement all and euery the auncient free doms, priuiledges, immunitie, and customes during the Parlement: as also during the times and dayes comming and going to and from the Parlement, but yet the same humbly to be requested of his highnes by the Speaker in his oratiõ at the beginning of the Parlement.

Also the King in person ought to be present in the Parlement three daies at the least during the time of the Parlemẽt, that is to say, the first day when the whole estates according to the summons make their apparance, whiche is called the first day of the Parlement. On the second day when the Speaker of the common house is presented, which is counted the beginning of the Parlement. And the third day which is the last day when the Parlement is proroged or dissolued, for vpon these dayes: he must be present, vnlesse in cace of sicknes, or absence out of the Realme, for in these caces: the King may summon his Parlement by commission, and the same is of as good effect, as if he were present in person, and as for any other dayes: he is at his choice and libertie to come, or not to come to the Parlement.

Also the King ought to propone vnto the Parlement house in writing all such things and matters of charge, as for whiche he calleth the said Parlemẽt, and accordingly as the same shal then by the consent of all estates be aduised, concluded and agreed, so the King either hath to allow or dissalowe the same, for he can (of him self) neither adde nor deminish any Bil, but

accept

accept the same as it is presented vnto him from the estates of the Parlement, or els altogither reiect it.

Also the King as he doth prefixe and assigne the day, and time when the Parlement shall begin: so also he must assigne and appoint the time when the same shalbe proroged or dissolued, whiche ought not to be as long as any matters of charge, weight or importaunce be in question, and the same not decided nor determined.

Of the dignitie, power and authoritie of the Parlement and of the orders of the same.

THe Parlement is the hiest, cheefest, and greatest Court that is or can be within the Realme for it consisteth of the whole Realme, whiche is deuided into three estates, that is to wit, the King, the Nobles, and the Commons, euery of which estates are subiect to all suche orders as are concluded and established in Parlement.

These three estates may ioyntly and with one consent or agreemẽt: establish and enact any Lawes, orders, & Statutes for the common welth, but beeing deuided, and one swaruing from the other: they can do no thing, for the King though hee be the head, yet alone: cannot make any Law, nor yet ỹ king and his Lords onely, nor yet the King and his Commons alone, neither yet can the Lords and the Commons, without the King do any thing of auail. And yet neuertheleſſe if the King in due order haue summoned all his Lords and Barons, and they wil not come, or if they come they wil not yet appeer, or if they come and appeer, yet wil not do or yeeld to any thing: then the King with the concent of his Commons (who are representeed by the Knights Citizens and Burgesses) may ordain & establish any Act or Law, which ar as good, sufficent and effectuall: as if the Lords had giuen their consents.

But of the contrary, if the Commons be summoned, and wil not come, or comming wil not appeer, or appearing wil not consent

sent to do any thing, aledging some iust weightie and great cause. The King (in these cases) cannot with his Lords deuise, make, or establish any Law, the reasons are these, when Parlements were first begon and ordained: there were no Prelats or Barons of the Parlement, and the Temporall Lords were very few or none, and then the King and his Commons did make a ful Parlement, which authoritie was hetherto neuer abridged, again euery Baron in Parlement doth represent but his owne person, & speaketh in the behalf of him self alone.

But in the Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses: are represēted the Commons of the whole Realme, and euery of these giueth not consent onely for him self: but for all those also for whom he is sent. And the King with the consent of his Commons: had euer a sufficient and ful authoritie to make, ordain, & establish good & wholesome Lawes for the commō welth of his Realme, wherfore the Lords beeing lawfully summoned & yet refusing to come, sit or cōsent in Parlemēt: cannot by their folly abridge the King and the Commons of their lawful proceding in Parlement.

The Lords and Commons (in times past) did sit all in one house, but for the auoiding of confusion: they be now deuided into two seuerall houses, and yet neuertheles they are of like and equall authoritie, euery persō of either of ẏ said houses beeing named, reputed, & coūted a peer of the Realme, for the time of the Parlement, ẏ is to say, equall, for Par, is equall. And therfore the oppinion, censure and iudgement of a mean Burgesse: is of as great auail: as is the best Lords, no regarde beeing had to the partie who speaketh: but the matter that is spoken.

They be also called Pæres as it were Fathers for Pier, is a Father, by which is ment that all such as be of the Parlement: should be auncient, graue, wise, learned and expert men of the land, for such were the Senators of Rome, and called Patres conscripti for the wisdome and care that was in them in gouerning of ẏ common welth. They are also called Councellers, because they are assembled and called to the Parlement, for their aduise and good councel in making and deuising of suche good

good ordeꝛs and Lawes as may be foꝛ the common welth.

They, therfoꝛe which make choice of Knights, Citizens and Burgesses, ought to be wel aduised that they doo elect and chose such as beeing to be of that assemblye, and therby equall with the great estates: should be graue, auncient, wise, learned, expert & careful men foꝛ their common welth, and who (as faithful and trusty councellers) should doo that whiche should turn and be foꝛ the best commoditie of the common welth, otherwise they doo great iniury to their Pꝛince and common weale.

Also euery person of the Parlement during the times of the Parlement, and at his comming and going from the same: is frée from all troubles, arrests and molestations, no action oꝛ sute taking effect which during that time is begun, entred, oꝛ commenced against him, in what Court so euer the same be, except in causes of Treason, Murder and Fellony, and except also executions in Law, awarded and graunted befoꝛe the beginning of the Parlement.

Also euery person hauing voices in Parlement: hath frée libertie of speach to speak his minde, oppinion and iudgemẽt to any matter pꝛoponed, oꝛ of him self to pꝛopone any matter foꝛ the commoditie of the Pꝛince and of the common welth, but hauing once spoken to any Bil: he may speak no moꝛe foꝛ that time.

Also euery person once elected and chosen a knight, Citizen oꝛ Burgesse & returned: cannot be dismissed out of that house, but beeing admitted: shall haue his place and voice there, if he be a Lay man. But if by errour a man of the Clergie be chosen: then he ought and shalbe dismissed, also if he be excommunicated, outlawed oꝛ infamose.

Also euery one of these houses ought to be incoꝛrupt no bꝛiber noꝛ taker of any rewards, gifts, oꝛ money, either foꝛ deuising of any bil oꝛ foꝛ speaking of his minde: but to doo all thingꝭ vpꝛightly, and in such soꝛte, as best foꝛ the King and common welth.

Also euery one ought to be of a quiet, honest, and gentle, behauiour, none taunting, checking oꝛ misusing an other in

any vnſeemly wordes or deeds, but all affections ſet a parte to dw and indeuer in wiſdome, ſobrietie & knowledge, that which that place requireth.

Alſo if any one dw offend or miſbehaue himſelf: he is to be corrected and puniſhed by the aduiſe and order of the reſidue of the houſe.

Alſo all the Priſons, wardes, gailes within the Realme and the keepers of the ſame: are at the commaundement of the Parlement for the cuſtodie and ſafe keeping or puniſhment of all and euery ſuch Priſoners as ſhalbe ſent to any of them by the ſaid Parlement houſes or any of them, how beit moſte commonly the Tower of London is the priſon which is moſte vſed.

Alſo if any one of the Parlement houſe be ſerued, ſued, arreſted or attached by any writ, attachment or miniſter of the Kings bench, Common place, Chauncery, or what Court ſo euer within this Realme: the partie ſo troubled and making complaint therof to the Parlement houſe: then forth with a Sergeant at Armes, is ſent to the ſaid Court, not onely aduertiſing, that the partie ſo moleſted is one of the Parlemẽt houſe: but alſo inhibiting and commaunding the Officers of the ſaid Court to call in the ſaid proceſſe, and not to deale any further againſt the ſaid partie, for the Parlement beeing the hieſt court, all other Courts yeld and giue place to the ſame.

Alſo as euery one of the Parlement houſe is free for his owne perſon, for all maner of ſutes to be commenced againſt him: ſo are alſo his Seruants free, and not to be troubled nor moleſted, but beeing troubled: haue the like remedie as the Maiſter hath or may haue.

Alſo no manner of perſon beeing not one of the Parlement houſe: ought to enter or come within the houſe, as long as the ſitting is there: vpon pain of impriſonment or ſuche other puniſhment, as by the houſe ſhalbe ordred and adiudged.

Alſo euery perſon of the Parlement ought to keep ſecret and not to diſcloſe the ſecrets and things ſpokẽ and don in the Parlement houſe, to any manner of perſon vnleſſe he be one of

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the ſame houſe: vpon pain to be ſequeſtred out of the houſe, or otherwiſe puniſhed, as by the order of the houſe ſhalbe appointed.

Alſo none of the Parlement houſe ought to departe from the Parlement: without ſpeciall leaue obteyned of the Speaker of the houſe, and the ſame his licence be alſo recorded.

Alſo no perſon beeing not of the Parlement houſe: ought to come into the ſame, during the time of the ſitting, ſo euery one comming into the ſame: oweth a dutie and a reuerence to be giuen when he entreth and commeth in.

If a Baron or a Lord come and enter into ỹ higher houſe: he ought to doo his obeyſaunce before the cloth of eſtate, and ſo to take his place.

Alſo when he ſpeaketh: he muſt ſtand bare headed, and ſpeake his minde plainly, ſenſibly, and in decent order.

If any come in meſſage or be ſent for to the higher houſe: they muſt ſtay at the inner doore vntil they be called in, & then beeing entred: muſt firſt make their obeyſaũce, which doon: to go to the lower end of the houſe & their to ſtay vntil they be called, and beeing called: they muſt firſt make one lowe courteſie and obeiſaũce, and goeing forwards muſt in the middle way make one other lowe curteſie, and then beeing come forth to the Barre: muſt make the third curteſie, the like muſt be doon at the departure.

Alſo when any Knight, Citizen, or Burgeſſe doth enter and come into the lower houſe, he muſt make his dutiful and humble obeyſaunce at his entry in: and then take his place. And you ſhal vnderſtãd that as euery ſuch perſon ought to be graue, wiſe and expert: ſo ought he to ſhow him ſelf in his Apparail, for in times paſt: none of the councellers of ỹ Parlement came otherwiſe then in his gown, and not armed nor girded with weapon, for the Parlement houſe is a place for wiſe, graue and good men, to conſult, debate, and aduiſe how to make Lawes, and orders for the common welth, and not to be armed as men redy to fight, or to trye matters by the Sword: and albe it the writ for the election of the Knights, haue expreſſe words to

chose such for Knights as be girded with the Sword, yet it is not ment therby that they should come and sit armed: but bee such as be skilful in feates of Armes, and besides their good adui-ses: can wel serue in martiall affaires. And thus the Romain Senators vsed, who beeing men of great knowledge and expe rience as wel in martiall affaires, as in politique causes, sat allwaies in the Senate house, and places of councel in their Gownes and long Robes. The like also was allwaies and hath been the order in the Parlements of this Realme, as long as the auncient Lawes, the olde customes, and good orders therof were kept and obserued.

Also if any other person or persons either in message or beeing sent for, do come: he ought to be brought in by the Sergeant at the first entring: must (folowing the Sergeant) make one lowe obeysaunce, and beeing past in the middle way: must make one other, and when he is come before the Speaker: he must make the third, and then do his message, the like order he must keep in his return. But if he do come alone or with his learned councel, to pleade any matter, or to answere to any obiection: he shall enter and go no farther then to the Bar within the dor, and there to do his three obeysaunces.

Also when any Bil is committed, the Committes haue not authoritie to conclude: but onely to order, reforme, eramin, and amend the thing committed vnto them, and of their doings they must giue reporte to the house again, by whome the Bill is to be considered.

Also euery Bil whiche is brought into the house: must bee red three seuerall times, and vpon three seuerall dayes.

Also euery Bil which vpon any reading is committed and returned again: ought to haue his three readings vnlesse the Commuttes haue not altred the bil in any substaunce or forme, but onely in certain words.

Also when any Bil vpon any reading is altogither by one concent reiected, or by voices after ỳ third reading ouerthrown: it ought not to be brought any more to be red during ỳ Sessions of Parlement.

Also

Also if any man do speak vnto a Bill and be out of his matter: he ought to be put in remembraunce of the matter by the Speaker onely and by none other, and be willed to come to the matter.

Also whensoeuer any person doth speak to any Bill: hée ought to stand vp, and to be bare headed, and then with all reuerence, grauitte, and seemly speech, to declare his minde. But when so euer any Bil shalbe tryed either for allowances, or to be reiected: then euery one ought to sit, because he is then as a Iudge.

Also euery Knight, Citizen, and Burgesse before he do enter into the Parlement and take his place there: ought to bee sworne and to take his othe, acknowledging the King to be the supreme and onely gouernour of all the estates within his Realme as also to renounce all forrain Potentates.

The order of the beginning and ending of the Parlement.

ON the first day of the summons for the Parlement, the King in proper person (vnlesse he bée sick or absent out of the Realme) béeing apparailled in his royall and Parlement Robes: ought to be conducted & brought by all his Barons of the Clergie and Laitie, and the Commons summoned to the Parlement, vnto the Churrh, where ought a Sermon to be made by some Archbishop, Bishop or some other famouse learned man. The Sermon ended: he must in like order be brought to the higher house of Parlement, and there to take his seat vnder the cloth of estate, likewise euery Lord and Baron (in his degree) ought to take his place.

This don: the Lord Chaunceller or he whom the King appointeth to be the speaker of that house, maketh his oration to the whole assembly, declaring the causes why & wherfore that Parlement is called and summoned, exhorting and perswading euery man to do his best indeuor in all such matters as

shalbe in the said Parlement proponed as shalbe most expedient for the glory of God, the honor of the King, and the common welth of the whole Realme. Then he directeth his talke, vnto the Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses, aduertising them that the Kings pleasure is, that they do repair to their house, and there according to the olde and auncient custome: to chose and elect some one wise, graue, and learned man emong them selues to be Speaker for them, and giueth them a day when they shall present him to the King. And these things thus don: the King ariseth, and euery man departeth. This is accounted for the first day of the Parlement.

THe second or third day after, when the Speaker is to be presented: the King with all his Nobles (in like order as before) do assemble again in the higher house, and then come vp all the commons of the lower house, and then and there do present their Speaker vnto the King. The Speaker forthwith maketh his dutiful obeysaunces: beginneth and maketh his oration before the King, and prosequuteth such matters as occasion serueth, and as is before resited in the office of the Speaker, and this don: euery man departeth. And this is accounted for the beginning of the Parlement, for before the Speaker be presented, and these things orderly don: there can no Billes be put in, nor matters be entreated of.

LAstly when all matters of weight be discussed, ended and dermined: the King commaundeth an end to be made.

And that day the King, his Nobles and Commons do again assemble in the higher house, in their Robes, and in like order as is before recited, where the Speaker maketh his oration, and is answered by the Lord Chaunceller or Speaker of the higher house. Then all the Billes concluded and past in bothe houses, that is to say, in the higher house of the Lords, and in the lower house of the commons, are there red by the titles, and then the King giueth his concent or discent to euery of them as he thinketh good. And when the titles of all the the

Billes

The order of the Parlement.

Billes are red: the Lord Chaunceller, or Lord Speaker by the Kings commaundement, pronounceth the Parlement to be prorogued or cleane dissolued. And this is called the last day or the end of the Parlement, and euery man is at libertie to departe homewards.

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The names of all such personages as ought to appeer and be in the Parlement.

In the higher house.

¶ The King.
The Lord Speaker.
A Proctor for the kingdome of Fraunce.
A Proctor for Scotland.
A Proctor for the Duchie of Aquitane.
A Proctor for the Duchie of Guyen.
A Proctor for the Duchie of Angewe.

The Archbishop of Canterbury
The Archbishop of York.
The Bishop of London.
The Bishop of Durham.
The Bishop of Winchester.
The Bishop of Chichester.
The Bishop of Exeter.
The Bishop of Elye,
The Bishop of Couentrie.
The Bishop of Rochester.
The Bishop of Sarisbury.
The Bishop of Welles.
The Bishop of Norwich.
The Bishop of Lincolne.
The Bishop of Worcester.
The Bishop of Hereford.
The Bishop of Oxford.
The Bishop of Glocester.
The Bishop of Peterborough.
The Bishop of Bristowe.
The Bishop of Westchester.
The Bishop of Carliel.
The Bishop of Saint Dauid.
The Bishop of Saint Asse.
The Bishop of Bangor.
The Bishop of Landaffe.

The Duke of Norfolke.
The Marques of Northampton.
The Marques of Winchester.
The Earle of Arundel.
The Earle of Shrewsbury.
The Earle of Oxford.
The Earle of Darby.
The Earle of Rutland.
The Earle of Cumberland.
The Earle of Worcester.
The Earle of Bathe.
The Earle of Warwick.
The Earle of Leceſter.
The Earle of Sussex.
The Earle of Huntington.
The Earle of Penbrok.
The Earle of Harford.
The Earle of Sowthampton.
The Earle of Bedford.
The Viccount Montagew.
The Vicecount Hereford.

The

The Vicecount Bindon.
The Lord Scroch.
The Lord de la ware.
The Lord Aburgauenny.
The Lord Awdeley.
The Lord Barkley.
The Lord Morley.
The Lord Cobham.
The Lord Dakers of the South.
the Lord Dakers of Gudestond.
The Lord Gray.
The Lord Scrope.
The Lord Latimer.
The Lord Sturton.
The Lord Clinton.
The Lord Dudley Baron of Dudley.
The Lord Lomeley.
The Lord Mountioy.
The Lord Conyes.
The Lord Mountegle.
The Lord Winsor.
The Lord Wentworth.
The Lord Sandes.
The Lord Vaus.
The Lord Mordant.
The Lord Borough.
The Lord Bray.
the Lord Wharton.
The Lord Rich.
the Lord Crumwel.
The Lord Euere.
the Lord Stafford.
The Lord Darcy of Menel.
the Lord Willoughby.
The Lord Paget.
The Lord Darcy of Chiche.
the Lord Chandoys.
The Lord of Loughborough.
the Lord S. John of Blastowe.
The Lord Buckhurst.
the Lord Hunsdon.
The Lord of Effingham.
the two cheef Iustices.
The Barons of Th'eschequer.
the kings Attorney.
The kings Sergeants at Law.
the kings Sollicitor.
The kings learned Counsel.

Likewise euery such person whome the king endoweth and honoreth with the degree and estate of a Baron ought to be simoned to the Parlement and to haue place there emong the Barons according to his degree.

And yet neuertheles the Sone of a Duke, of a Marquesse, or of an Earle, though he bee a Baron (his Father yet liuing) he shall not haue a place in the Parlement: except he be otherwise honored either by the king or bee aduaunced by meanes of some Mariage to the degree of a Baron.

In the

¶The Countie of Bukingham.
y.Knights.
The Countie of Yidelser.
y.Knights.
the Countie of Bedford
y.Knights.
The Countie of Cornewall.
y.Knights.
the Countie of Cumberland
y.Knights.
The countie of Cambridge
y.Knights.
the Countie of Chester
y.Knights.
The countie of Darby
y.Knights.
the Countie of Deuon
y.Knights.
The countie of Dorset
y.Knights.
the Countie of Eller
y.knights.
The countie of York
y.Knights.
the Countie of Glocester
y.Knights.
The countie of Huntington.
y.Knights.
the Countie of Hertford
y.Knights.
The countie of Hereford
y.Knights.
the Countie of Kent
y.knights.

The countie of Lincolne
y.knights.
the Countie of Leceſter
y. knights.
The countie of Lancaſter
y.knights.
the Countie of Monmouth
y.knights.
The Countie of Northampton
y.knights.
the Countie of Notingham
y.knights.
The countie of Norfolke
y. knights.
the Countie of Northumberland
y. knights.
The countie of Oxford
y.knights.
the Countie of Rutland
y.knights.
The countie of Berkshere
y.knights.
the Countie of Surrey
y.knights.
The countie of Stafford
y.knights.
the Countie of Shropsheer
y.knights.
The countie of Southampton
y.knights.
the Countie of Suffolke
y.knights.
The countie of Somerset
y.knights.

the

The countie of Sussex
ij.knights.
the Countie of Westmerland
ij.knights.
The countie of Wiltsheer
ij.knights.
the Countie of Worcester
ij.knights.
The countie of Warwick
ij.knights.
the Countie of Mongomerie
j.Knight.
The countie of Radnor
j.Knight.
the Countie of Dinghby
j.Knight.
The countie of Pembrook
j.Knight.
the Countie of Cardigan
j.Knight.
The countie of Mayoth
j.Knight,
the Countie of Carmarthan
j.Knight.
The countie of Carnarvan
j.Knight.
the Countie of Brecknock
j.Knight.
The countie of Glamorgan
j.Knight.
the Countie of Anglesey
j.Knight.
The countie of Merioneth
j.Knight.

¶The Cittie of Carlile
ij.Citizens.
The Cittie of Chester.
ij.Citizens.
the Cittie of Excester
ij.Citizens.
The Cittie of York. ij.Citizens
the Cittie of Glocester
ij. Citizens.
The Cittie of Hereford
ij.Citizens.
the Cittie of Canterbury
ij.citizens.
The Cittie of Rochester
ij.citizens.
the Cittie of Lincolne
ij. citizens.
The Cittie of Westminster
ij.citizens.
the Cittie of London
ij.Citizens.
The Cittie of Norwich
ij.citizens.
the Cittie of Orford.ij.citizens.
The Cittie of Winchester
ij.citizens.
the Cittie of Bristow.ij.citizens
The Cittie of Bathe.ij.citizens.
the Cittie of Chichester
ij.Citizens.
The Cittie of Salisbury
ij.Citizens.
the Cittie of Worcester
ij.Citizens.
The Cittie of Couentrie
ij.Citizens.

The Barons of the fiue Portes.

¶Hastings.	ij. Barons.
Winchelsey	ij. Barons.
Rye.	ij. Barons.
Rumney.	ij. Barons.
Hyeth.	ij. Barons.
Douer.	ij. Barons.
Sandwich.	ij. Barons.

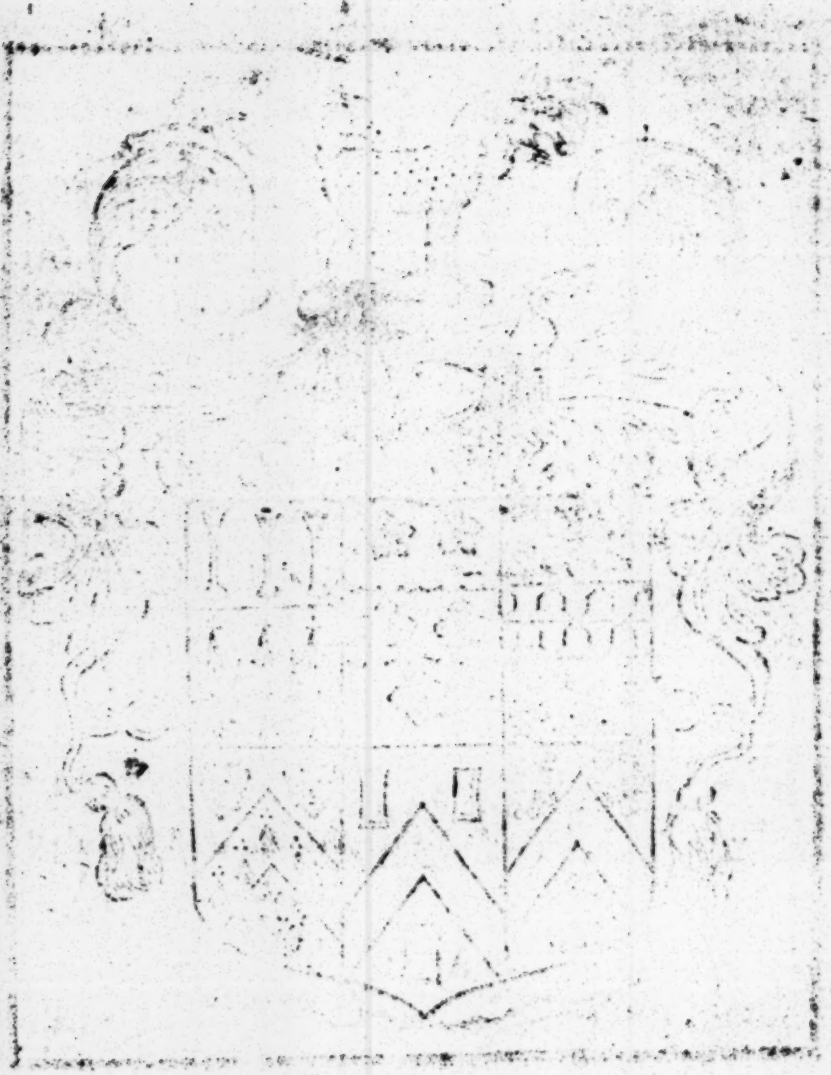
Burgesses.

¶Bedford towne.	ij. Burgesses
Buckingham towne.	ij. burgesses
Wickham,	ij. burgesses.
Ailisbury,	ij, burgesses.
New Windsor,	ij, burgesses.
Reding,	ij, burgesses.
Wallingford,	ij, burgesses.
Abingdon,	ij, burgesses.
Launceston,	ij, burgesses.
Leskerd,	ij, burgesses.
Lestuthiel,	ij, burgesses.
Dunheuet,	ij, burgesses.
Truro,	ij. burgesses.
Bodmin,	ij, burgesses.
Helston.	ij, burgesses.
Saltashe,	ij. burgesses.
Camelford,	ij. burgesses.
Portlowe,	ij, burgesses.
Grompound,	ij, burgesses.
Perin,	ij, burgesses.
Tregonye,	ij, burgesses.
Trelenna,	ij, burgesses.
Saint Ives,	ij, burgesses.
Saint Germins,	ij, burgesses.
Saint Michael,	ij, burgesses.
Foy,	ij, burgesses.
Saint Mawes,	ij, burgesses.
Eastlo,	ij, burgesses.
Cambridge,	ij, burgesses.
Derby towne,	ij, burgesses.
Totnes,	ij, burgesses.
Plimmouth,	ij, burgesses.
Barstable,	ij, burgesses.
Plimpton,	ij, burgesses.
Tauistock,	ij, burgesses.
Dartmouth,	ij, burgesses.
Pole,	ij, burgesses.
Dorchester,	ij, burgesses.
Lime,	ij, burgesses.
Melcombe,	ij, burgesses.
Weymouth,	ij, burgesses.
Birtport,	ij, burgesses.
Shaftisbury,	ij, burgesses.
Warham,	ij, burgesses.
Colchester,	ij, burgesses.
Maldon,	ij, burgesses.
Kingston vpon Hull.	ij, burgesses
Knaresborough,	ij, burgesses.
Scatborough,	ij, burgesses.
Ripton,	ij, burgesses.
Haydon,	ij, burgesses.
Borough bridge,	ij, burgesses.
Tuske,	ij, burgesses.
Aldeborgh	ij, burgesses.
Feuerley,	ij burgesses.
Cicester,	ij, burgesses.
Huntington,	ij, burgesses.
Saint Albons,	ij, burgesses.

Lempster, ij. burgesses.
Maidstone, ij. burgesses.
Bolton, ij. burgesses.
Grimesby, ij. burgesses.
Stampford. ii. burgesses.
Grantham, ii. burgesses.
Leceſter, ij. burgesses.
Lancaster, ii. burgesses.
Preston in Aldernes. ij. burg.
Liuerpool, ij. burgesses.
Newton, ij. burgesses.
Wigan, ij. burgesses.
Clithero, ij. burgesses.
Monmouth, ij. burgesses.
Northampton, ij. burgesses.
Peterborough, ij. burgesses.
Berkley, ij. burgesses.
Higham ferry, ij. burgesses.
Notingham, ij. burgesses.
Eaſt Stratford, ij. burgesses.
Lin. ij. burgesses.
Yermouth, ij burgesses.
Thetford, ij. burgesses.
Caſtle, ij. burgesses.
New Caſtel vpon tine. ij. bur.
Morpeth. ij. burgesses.
Barwick. ij. burgesses.
Woodstock, ij. burgesses.
Banbury, ij. burgesses.
Sowthwark. ij. burgesses.
Blenchingly, ij. burgesses.
Rigat. ij burgesses.
Gatton. ij burgesses.
Lichfæld. ij. burgesses.
Stafford, ii. burgesses.
New Caſtel vnder Line. ii. bur.
Tamworth, ii. burgesses.

Shrewsbury. ii burgesses.
Bridgenorth, ii. burgesses.
Ludlow, ii. burgesses.
Great wenlock, ii. burgesses.
Sowthampton. ii. burgesses.
Portesmouth. ii burgesses.
Peterfæld. ii. burgesses.
Stockbridge, ii burgesses.
Chriſtes Church, ii. burgesses.
Ipſwich, ii. burgesses.
Dunwich, ii. burgesses.
Dtesord, ii. burgesses.
Aldborough, ii. burgesses.
Sudbury, ii. burgesses.
Ey. ii. burgesses.
Welles. ii. burgesses.
Taunton. ii. burgesses.
Bridge water, ii. burgesses.
Winhed, ii, burgesses.
Horsham ii. burgesses.
Midhurſt, ii. burgesses.
Lewes, ii. burgesses.
Shereham, ii. burgesses.
Brember, ii. burgesses.
Steyning, ii burgesses.
Eaſt Grænſtæd, ii. burgesses.
Arundel, ii burgesses.
Apleby, ii. burgesses.
Wilton, ii burgesses.
Windon, ii. burgesses.
Heytesbury, ii. burgesses.
Westbury. ii. burgesses.
Calne, ii. burgesses.
Deuiſes, ii. burgesses.
Chipenham, ii. burgesses.
Malmesbury, ii burgesses.

Bodwin the great	ii.burgesses.	Court of Parlement: the writs
Ludgarsall.	ii.burgesses.	of summons must be sent out for
Olde Salisbury,	ii.burgesses.	chosing of Knights, in the new
Wotton basset,	ii,burgesses.	Counties, and Burgesses in the
Marleborough,	ii.burgesses.	new incorporated Boroughs or
Wliche.	ii.burgesses.	Townes, aswel as to the other
Warwick,	ii.burgesses.	olde and auncient Cities, and
Mongomery.	i,burgesse.	Townes, and euery of them
Radnor,	i,burgesse.	shall (vpon such summons) bee
Mingby,	i,burgesse.	bound to appeer and haue the
Pembrok,	i,burgesse.	ful priuiledges belonging
Cardigan,	i,burgesse.	to a Knight or a Bur-
Flint,	i,burgesse.	gesse of the Par-
Carmarthan.	i,burgesse.	lement.
Carnaruan,	i,burgesse.	***
Brecknock,	i,burgesse.	
Cardiffe,	i,burgesse.	
Newmoris,	i,burgesse.	
Harford west,	i,burgesse.	

As the King (by aduancing any man to the honor of a Baron) doth inlarge and augmẽt the number of the Lords of the higher house: so doth he also increace the number of the lower house, when he doth make and erect any new Countie, or incorporate any Borough, or Town, so that in his letters Pattents hée doth nominate them by the name of a Burgesse.

And therfore when so euer the King doth call his high